

Amendments to the claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~Allergen~~ An isolated allergen consisting of a polypeptide capable of binding to IgE antibodies from an individual being allergic against mugwort pollen, wherein said polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of: comprising a fragment of at least 18 consecutive amino acids of the amino acid sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 1; (a) a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence that is at least 95% identical to the amino acid sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO:1; (b) a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence extending between residues 21 and 180 of SEQ ID NO:1; and (c) a polypeptide comprising the amino acid extending between residues 181 and 396 of SEQ ID NO:1.
2. (Canceled) ~~Allergen according to claim 1, wherein said fragment is capable of binding to IgE antibodies from an individual being allergic against mugwort pollen.~~
3. (Currently Amended) ~~The allergen~~ Allergen according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein said polypeptide comprises ~~comprising~~ the amino acid sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 1.
4. (Currently Amended) ~~The allergen~~ Allergen of claim 1, wherein said polypeptide is further characterized in that it is capable of binding to IgE antibodies from an individual being allergic against ragweed pollen.
5. (Withdrawn) A polynucleotide selected from the group consisting of:
 - (a) polynucleotides encoding the amino acid sequent as shown in SEQ ID NO: 1;

(b) polynucleotides encoding a polypeptide as claimed in any one of claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 19, and 20; and

(c) polynucleotides comprising a nucleotide sequence which has an identity of at least 75% to the nucleotide sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 2;

or the complementary strand of such polynucleotide.

6. (Withdrawn) The polynucleotide of claim 5 comprising the nucleotide sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 2 or the nucleotide sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 3.
7. (Withdrawn) A plasmid or vector comprising a polynucleotide of claim 5.
8. (Withdrawn) A cell containing a plasmid or a vector of claim 7 or 21.
9. (Withdrawn) A cell according to claim 8, which is selected from the group consisting of plant cells, bacterial cells, and yeast cells.
10. (Withdrawn) A method for the preparation of a polypeptide comprising culturing cells as claimed in claim 8, 9, 22, 23, 24, or 25 under conditions appropriate for the expression of the polypeptide and optionally subsequently recovering the polypeptide.
11. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 10, wherein the cells are opened and the polypeptide is recovered using affinity chromatography.
12. (Withdrawn) An antibody capable of binding to a polypeptide of any one of claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 19, and 20.
13. (Withdrawn) An antibody of claim 12, which is capable of binding to one or several of the polypeptides selected from the group consisting of Amb a 1.1, Amb a 1.2, Amb a 1.3, and Amb a 2.
14. (Withdrawn) An antibody of claim 12, which does not bind to any one of the polypeptides selected from the group consisting of Amb a 1.1, Amb a 1.2, Amb a 1.3, and Amb a 2.

15. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a polypeptide ~~the~~ allergen as claimed in any one of claims 1 ~~to, 3 or~~ 4.
16. (Withdrawn) A method of treating, preventing, or diagnosing an allergic disorder by administering a medicament comprising a polypeptide as claimed in any one of claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 19, and 20.
17. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 16, wherein the medicament is administered to an individual to be desensitized.
18. (Currently Amended) A kit for the diagnosis, treatment or prevention of an allergic disorder comprising a polypeptide ~~the~~ allergen as claimed in any one of claims 1 ~~to, 3 or~~ 4.
19. (Canceled) ~~The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the polypeptide is capable of binding to IgE antibodies from an individual being allergic against ragweed pollen.~~
20. (Currently Amended) The allergen polypeptide ~~of claim 3, wherein the polypeptide is further~~ capable of binding to IgE antibodies from an individual being allergic against ragweed pollen.
21. (Withdrawn) A plasmid or vector comprising a polynucleotide of claim 6.
22. (Withdrawn) A cell containing a polynucleotide as claimed in claim 5.
23. (Withdrawn) A cell containing a polynucleotide as claimed in claim 6.
24. (Withdrawn) A cell according to claim 23, which is selected from the group consisting of plant cells, bacterial cells, and yeast cells.
25. (Withdrawn) A cell according to claim 24, which is selected from the group consisting of plant cells, bacterial cells, and yeast cells.
26. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a polynucleotide as claimed in

claim 5.

27. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a polynucleotide as claimed in claim 6.

28. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an antibody as claimed in claim 12.

29. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an antibody as claimed in claims 13 or 14.

30. (Withdrawn) A method of treating, preventing, or diagnosing an allergic disorder by administering a polynucleotide of claim 5.

31. (Withdrawn) A method of treating, preventing, or diagnosing an allergic disorder by administering a polynucleotide of claim 6.

32. (Withdrawn) A method of treating, preventing, or diagnosing an allergic disorder by administering an antibody of claim 12.

33. (Withdrawn) A method of treating, preventing, or diagnosing an allergic disorder by administering an antibody of claim 13 or 14.

34. (Withdrawn) A kit for the diagnosis, treatment or prevention of an allergic disorder comprising a polynucleotide as claimed in claim 5.

35. (Withdrawn) A kit for the diagnosis, treatment or prevention of an allergic disorder comprising a polynucleotide as claimed in claim 6.

36. (Withdrawn) A kit for the diagnosis, treatment or prevention of an allergic disorder comprising an antibody of claim 12.

37. (Withdrawn) A kit for the diagnosis, treatment or prevention of an allergic disorder comprising an antibody of claim 13 or 14.

38. (New) The allergen according to claim 1, wherein said polypeptide consists of the amino acid sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO:1.
39. (New) The allergen according to claim 1, wherein said polypeptide consists of the amino acid sequence extending between residues 21 and 180 of SEQ ID NO:1.
40. (New) The allergen according to claim 1, wherein said polypeptide consists of the amino acid sequence extending between residues 181 and 396 of SEQ ID NO:1.